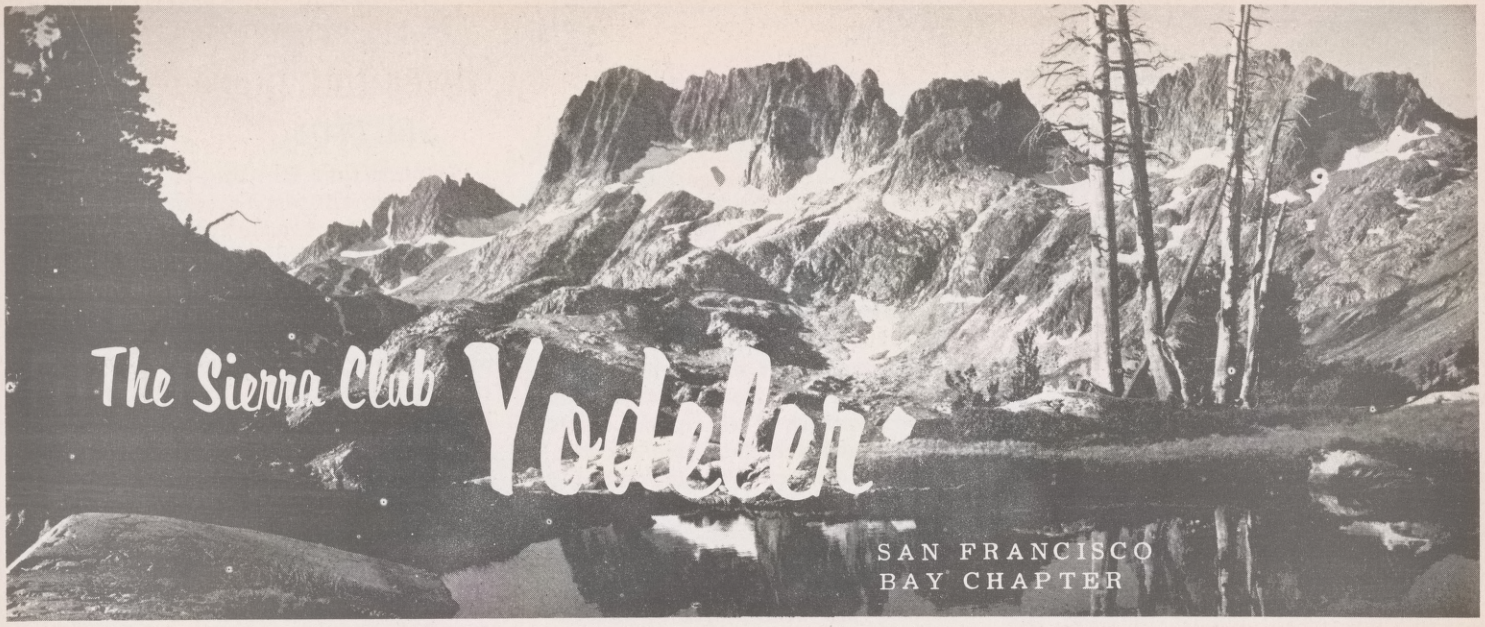

Volume XXI | September 14, 1959 | Number 13

film fund news

The film on Point Reyes National Seashore Recreation area is now a long way toward realization. A preview of the incomplete film, shown on September 11, promises good things to come. Thanks to the impetus given by Howard Hirstel's gift of $500 at the opening of our appeal the film fund received immediate gifts of about $500 from 50 or more Club members who must have remembered the old proverb...."He gives twice who gives quickly." Other gifts amounting to over $200 have been added to the fund by conservation groups in Marin County.

This enabled the photographers to buy film and go to work on taking the picture, catching the flowers and green hills at their best before the summer drought. Action sequences and sports activities can be handled later.

Though an excellent start has been made, the film must now go through much expensive processing before it can be shown to the public. A copy must be made which can be run again and again while dialogue and music are synchronized with action. Script must be written and a "good voice" hired to read it. Copies for public use must be made, to safeguard the original film, and copyrights and TV rights protected. Most of this calls for skilled work in a professional film laboratory and the estimate of funds still needed runs above $3500.

We are sure this money can be found among our 13,000 Club members and other friends of the Point Reyes project. The San Francisco Bay Chapter is now exploring ways of carrying the appeal to all our members. Meanwhile we are sure that many Yodeler readers intended to send a donation but were away, or too busy, to remember it during the summer. Mark the envelope "Pt. Reyes Film Fund" and mail to the Sierra Club office, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

(continued)

POINT REYES
film fund
STILL NEEDS
YOUR HELP !

WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR HELP, PAST AND FUTURE, AND THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE TAKEN PART IN RAISING THE FIRST $1200.

—C.M.C.

Conservation

END-OF-SUMMER REPORT

News is varied, much of it disappointing, with only a few items of good news. The Wilderness Bill was definitely set aside by the Senate Committee and is dead for this session. Senator Magnuson was ill and requested postponement. There is a promise of early action next session.

Possibly it was wise to keep this important bill out of the last minute rush to adjourn. Sinister things happen to bills at the end of sessions. For example, the bill raising the gasoline tax which was passed by a voice vote a few days ago has an amendment tacked onto it "relaxing" the control of billboards along the highways. We have no details yet on the effect this will have on the provisions of the original highway legislation.

The Forest Service has refused to cooperate with the National Park Service in making it possible for the Park Service to survey the northern Cascades as a proposed National Park. Approval for this survey can be requested from Congress, we understand. The hearing on the Forest Service plan to set up an attenuated wilderness area around Glacier Peak will be held in October.

Though the Forest Service is likely to insist that the question before the hearing is simply for or against any wilderness area without admitting references to the position of the boundaries, the conservation organizations will make every effort to present the need for a

(continued on page 2)

Sierra Club Yodeler

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NEXT DEADLINE: October 5.

VOLUME XXI NO. 13 Sept. 14, 1959

TCC MEETING SEPT. 27

Latest developments in Mt. Tamalpais State Park and Muir Woods National Monument will be reported at the semi-annual TCC (Tamalpais Conservation Club) meeting Sunday, September 27, at Bootjack Camp, beginning at 1:30.

Lawson Brainerd, supervisory park ranger at Muir Woods, a ranger from the state park and members of the various outdoor clubs will provide all the up-to-the-minute details about what's happening in Marin conservationwise. Latest details on the Pt. Reyes Seashore Area project will also be presented.

Leading Sierra Clubbers to the meeting will be Cecilia Kotecki and Mildred Holota, starting from Mountain Home at 9:30 for a brisk hike to the top of the mountain and down to Bootjack. —A.R.

EAST BAY DINNER

Gateway to Nature and Canyon Reflections

Movies of Yellowstone Park and photographs taken by Gale Richardson, outstanding movie photographer of the Bay Area, will comprise the opening program of the season for East Bay dinnerites.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 23, at the Willard Junior High School, Telegraph & Ward Sts., Berkeley. Dinner will be served at 6:30 P.M. and the program will follow.

Barbara Grant (KE 2-5696) is taking dinner reservations, which must be made by 10:00 P.M. September 21. Any cancellations of dinner reservations, incidentally, must be made by this same time.

Doors are open at 5:30 P.M. for all to gather — an excellent opportunity to compare vacation notes.

Hope to see you there!

—Jean Bonner

Conservation: CONT.

larger area. Even Image Lake is excluded from the F. S. plan.

Natural Areas to be reserved in the Horse Creek watershed, southwest of the Three Sisters peaks in Oregon, are now under study by the Chief Forester. The Trails Club of Oregon proposes a corridor of timber left in its natural state all the way from higher to lower slopes to show the stages of transition. Letters to Dr. Richard McArdle, Chief Forester, U.S. Forest Service, Washington, D.C., from those who know and want to preserve this area, may help.

One item of good news is that the Bristlecone Pine Reserve in the White Mountains has been closed to mineral entry. So the ancient trees are to be allowed to live out their lives in peace without human moles burrowing around their roots.

In the Sierra a series of filings requesting permits to develop power was made by one individual on a long stretch of the middle fork of the Kings River, all the way from Simpson Meadow to Pine Flat Reservoir, National Park lands included. State Fish and Game officials were much concerned at this situation as many who heard about it on the Piute Creek Base Camp will remember. Club member Stanley Dickover arranged to use his vacation to investigate on the spot and later represented the Sierra Club at the hearing before the State Water Resources Board in Fresno. He reports that of many irrigationists, recreationists, and public bodies present, no one approved the promoter's idea. The Board members were also very critical and though no decision was announced there is little doubt that the necessary permit will be denied.

Conservation news from the State and local park systems will be reported in the next Yodeler, and at that time we shall have a better coverage of the whole Point Reyes project and other National Seashore Recreation areas which are now attracting very favorable notice in Congress. —C.M.C.

HELP WANTED

The "Yodeler" staff could easily use a couple of extra "hands" to assist in typing up the copy or in proof-reading. It only takes a couple of hours one or two nights per month. Anyone qualified and interested - please call the Club office and leave name and phone number.

—E.D.B.

River Touring SECTION

Vacation time for most of us is over but we have on film and on slides a record of the many trips made by various members of the group. The raft trips have been recorded by Red Cockerline, exploring rivers in Idaho is on some of Bryce's film, and we hope to see slides or movies of the hiking and knapsacking trips made by other members of the group.

The Payette River in Idaho offers much in the way of white water and good short runs. If the river were near the Bay Area, it would be one of our favorite runs. Perhaps Bryce can be prevailed upon to show his reel of the rivers we ran in Idaho again. The first Slalom of the year was held on the upper Mokelumne. The first place in the women's slalom was won by Elsa Bailey in 157 seconds and one ten point penalty, Barbara Tilden placed second in 193 seconds and no penalties, and Candy placed third with three penalties in 395 seconds. Bryce Whitmore was the winner of the men's in 105 seconds and no penalties, Red Cockerline took second place in 130 seconds and no penalties, and Bob Elliott placed third with one ten point penalty in 160 seconds. Plaques were given out to the first place winners. Congratulations to you all!

It is the time of the year to elect our new Chairman. The four people who were nominated for this position are Elaine Simpson, Carl Trost, Bob Hawley, and John Bombay. At our next meeting on October 13, the election will take place. We do want you to come out to vote, but if you cannot be present, please send in your vote. The procedure for this is to vote for one of the four nominees, place your vote in a sealed envelope, and mail this envelope to Glenn Gaumer at 6316 Colby Street, Oakland 9. Be sure to sign your name on the outside of the sealed envelope so your vote can be counted. If your signature does not appear on the outside of the sealed vote envelope, your vote cannot be counted.

All votes mailed in to Glenn Gaumer will be opened and counted at our October meeting. Please come if you can. Mark your calendar now for the next meeting of the R.T.S., October 13th at 8:00 P.M.

—Elinore M. Ridge

FOR SALE:
Kelty Pack - Medium size.
Backpacker frame and compartment bag with fittings. Like new. $15.00. OVerland 1-5008, 445 Magellan, S.F. 16.

FOR SALE: Martin Ukulele, $30.00. Trapper Nelson pack with sack, $7.50. Call PLaza 5-2704, evenings.

Editor's Note: The following story of a Natural Science Field Trip to Fort Ross reached our office too late for inclusion in the last (June 15 issue) so we print it now as an excellent contribution by a young Peninsula Club member.

Fort Ross *Special*

On Saturday around noontime we gathered in the Fort quadrangle. There we met Alice and John McKenzie, the Curators of the Fort Ross State Historical Monument. They had arranged a really wonderful weekend for us.

The first look we took was into the museum, which is located in the restored historical Commander's House of the Russian Colony, which settled here between 1812-1839.

Then we went with Alice for a short hike in the Kruse Memorial Park, which is famous for its wild rhododendrons. At the entrance to the park we had the opportunity to watch the nest of an osprey. Then we enjoyed a path through redwoods, douglas firs and rhododendrons which were in full blossom. However you coul d see how much they had to struggle for light against their bigger companions, as the park is becoming a climax forest. There is a plan to prevent this formation by cutting the larger trees, thus allowing the rhododendrons to continue to flourish.

We returned to the main road and guided by Alice we arrived at our future campsite, a very beautiful clearing among tall trees. All of us were very delighted and soon this peaceful place was full of life. Tents raised, sleeping bags found a roof under Douglas fir branches, a campfire crackled and the tables were quickly covered with most delicious things.

Soon we went to sleep, perhaps watching the stars and following the way of the moon for a while.

The next day's program was varied, but let me only tell you about our most outstanding excursion we made to look for animal life in the side pools. At sunrise we met Alice at Stillwater Cove. She introduced us to Mr. Rudy, who was to be our leader. He recently had finished his study about Pacific shore sea animals. At spring tide, which happens only twice each year, he guided us over from slippery seaweed covered rocks to pools and grottos, where we could see the most wonderful forms and colors of various sea animals. Some sea animals, while waiting for the flood, were hanging down by their weight, thus changing their typical form. Some were closed

(continued)

Sierra Club Exhibits at Sacramento Fair

Wilderness preservation was the theme of the Sierra Club exhibit at the 1959 State Fair in Sacramento. Display of the Cedric Wright photographic prints of the Sierra as well as showing of two club films, "Wilderness Alps of the Stehekin" and "Two Yosemites," were featured in the Junior Museum auditorium September 3-11.

Planning for this exhibit was done by the Mother Lode chapter. Loma Prieta chapter contributed materials and Bay chapter helped staff the exhibits.

A highlight of the exhibit was the collection of Cedric Wright prints. Wright is well known for his outstanding photography of the Sierra scene.

The results of commercial exploitation of wilderness were emphasized in the Yosemite film, showing the despoilation of the Hetch Hetchy above the dam in contrast to the beauties of Yosemite Valley.

The other film took the viewer into the primeval country at the head of Lake Chelan in northern Washington.

Club members staffing the exhibits discussed with visitors club activities, conservation issues, and questions about trails and equipment. Handout material included "Why the Sierra Club?", chapter schedules, and brochures.

—Kent Gill, Mother Lode Chapter

FORT ROSS: CONT.

and others showed their pretty circles of green tentacles.

We found one starfish which apparently had lost three arms and we could notice where replacements were growing. We looked at brittle stars, sea urchins, corals, sponges, mussels and turban snails. We found abalones and hairy crabs. Some hermit crabs were found to be charming, very aggressive and inquisitive.

I believe we all went home enriched in spirit and mind and in our hearts very grateful to John and Alice McKenzie, who had arranged this weekend with such care and thought.

As an enthusiastic guest of the Sierra Club hikes I would like to say "Thank you so much" to you all, and especially to Neva Snell, who invited me to this wonderful trip, which was the first car camping of my life.

—Telma Lange, Burlingame

A STROLL IN THE Swiss Mountains

There was a loud voice shouting: Everyone up the the Breithorn! Shadowy figures began getting up from the mattresses and dressed rapidly in the dark. It was four o'clock in the morning at the Gandegg Hut above Zermatt. I had arrived late from a strenous climb and didn't really want to get up. But one look out the window showed beautiful moonlight outlining the peaks above the Theodul Glacier.

Well, just a stroll up the morraine could do no harm, rather than just going down to Zermatt and home to Zurich. So I dressed and had coffee with the rest of the climbers, about 15 of them. It was beautiful outside, very cold and clear. I followed slowly the other guided parties, stopping often to look at the silent world of the mountains where only the slow shythm of the footsteps were heard. Slowly we climbed up to Theodul Pass and the Testa Grigia where the Italians have built an aerial tramway from Breuil, past the J-bar which was later actively in use by hundreds of Italian youngsters who participated in a summer ski school up there. The sun crept from the pink-colored peaks down the steep ice walls toward the glacier. A cloud, steep above the Breithorn was rimmed with sunshine. On the slope, where we walked, it was still bitterly cold. I had left my gloves at the hut, as I really did not intend to walk that far. So I walked with my hands in my pockets of my jeans which are so inadequate at this wintery high altitude. Slowly we moved up and finally the sun came to meet us on a lovely plateau. All around us were peaks, glaciers and brilliant sunshine.

Ahead was the only difficult part of the mountain, a Bergschrund with a rather weak-looking bridge crossing over. I was glad for the company of two English mountaineers — to disappear unnoticed into its icy depth did not appeal to me at all. Slowly, steeply, we neared the summit. What a beautiful world it really was. There was the Monte Rosa with its many summits, the Liskamm, Castor, and the towering pyramid of the Matterhorn which I had climbed the day before. Everything was shimmering with sunshine, everything seemed to be bathed in beauty. I stood there rather overwhelmed by it all. I felt small and insignificant, yet somehow also part of all this grandeur. For a moment I wished for some magic cloud on which I could climb and on to eternity.

But my companions were hungry. Bread and cheese won out over the magic of ice and snow. —Lotte Kramer

The Sierra Club

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Clair Tappaan Lodge
REVISITED

It had been three years since I had stayed at Clair Tappaan Lodge and upon my arrival I was struck by the many improvements.

The first important change that met my eyes was the "No Parking" sign at the Lodge and the gravel loading area. No more would guests be covered with dust from cars churning in and out. Cars now park in a space across the highway.

The next improvement is in the landscaping being done by Keith Lummis. Already it is becoming more appealing to the eye as one approaches and more pleasant if one spends any time in the yard. The old parking lot has been turned into a recreation area.

There is a playground for children with swings, slides, teeter-totters, etc. These should keep the adults out of the way of the children.

All of the benches have been repainted in bright colors, brightening the fron of the lodge.

On entering the kitchen — after signing up for chores, of course — one is immediately struck by the new paint job. Next one notices the sign over the sink: "Please turn off gas before draining water." I asked what this meant. "A new dishwasher," said Hazel Lummis. No more chore of washing piece by piece dishes for 150 people.

I then went to the living room and just beyond a group of people hammered noisily. They were building a "quiet room."

I then proceeded upstairs to the so-called family rooms. Each room leads out onto a balcony. They are well constructed with good light and comfortable bunks.

Under the expert management of the Lummises, these changes and many others have been brought about — all adding to the comfort of the guests. The meals planned and prepared by Diane Clayton or, in her absence, Hazel Lummis, are excellent.

Hats off to the Lodge Committee, the work parties and the Lummises!

—Ivan Tarnowsky

LOST - a hall for 100

The Mills Building Auditorium is no longer available for meetings. This means that the Natural Science Section, the Membership Committee, and other Chapter groups are homeless. We have been very lucky in having the use of this little auditorium free of charge. Now what shall we do for a hall? Does anyone know where a group of about 100 can hold evening meetings occasionally in downtown San Francisco?

—C.M.C.

West Point Club
HOSTESS SCHEDULE

Sept. 19-20, Gerry Hunter, EDgewater 2-3948, evenings; *Sept. 26-27, Ann Cole & Harry Kornfeld, PRospect 6-4194, evenings; Oct. 3-4, Portia and Frank Bradley, GRaystone 4-2500, any time; *Oct. 10-11, Candace and Bob Tapscott, JUniper 7-1498, any time; Oct. 17-18, Delia Busey, TWinoaks 3-0462, evenings; Oct. 24-25, Edna Lauman, THornwall 5-8557, evenings; *Oct. 31-Nov. 1, Halloween Party, Esther and Roy Crites, GRaystone 4-1666, any time.

*Central Commissary. Cancellation of reservations must be made by Thursday or party must pay for week end.
WEST POINT — Box 278, Route 1, Mill Valley. Phone DUnlap 8-9955.

FOLK DANCERS
attention!

The Garfield Folk Dancers invite you to brush up on your folk dancing in preparation for the Armstrong Grove Halloween Party. The new cycle starts September 14th with two classes weekly thereafter (Mondays and Thursdays) at the Live Oak Recreation Center, Shattuck Avenue and Berryman, Berkeley.

Edna Spalding will conduct the beginning class Monday evening from 8:00 to 10:25. Madelynne Greene teaches intermediate and advanced dances on Thursday evening.

The monthly party continues at Le Conte School, Russell and Ellsworth Streets, Berkeley, the third Saturday of every month at 8:00 P.M.

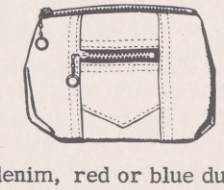
—Estelle Berkhimer

Norden Newsletter

Seen and heard around Clair Tappaan this summer: newly married Irma Oppenlander and Arnold Long, Irene McCullough and Bob Jessen, Evelyn Benson and John Berger. Phil Lydon co-led a Sierra Club trip in the Kern-Kaweah area, George and Kay Homsey vacationed in Oregon, Thelma Arlom hiked into the Trinity Alps, Roger and Jackie Paris are traveling in Europe, Ann Waybur is in Alaska on business, and Dottie Ellis is back from her round-the-world tour. Herb and Thelma Rubin introduced son David to Clair Tappaan for the first time. Linda Long is the baby-sitter, Jerry Fischer all-around helper, and Diane Clayton is still serving up those good dinners....and experimenting with home-made root beer and pickles on the side. And so it goes. Donner Lake is warm, the weather is perfect, and the new highway makes it easier than ever to reach the summit. Won't you join us?

—EDB

BELT PURSES



Blue denim, red or blue duck. Water repellent. Washable. Four sizes. Largest will hold Peterson Field Guide.

Handmade by Bernice Bonds, 2287 Cedar St., Berkeley 9, THornwall 1-1696. Also available at Audubon Center, 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley.